

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
November 14, 2013

Present: Knox, Roberts, Ames, Coughlin, Hultgren (staff), Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

The minutes from July 18, August 29, September 12 and October 17, 2013 were accepted with corrections on a motion by Ames/Coughlin.

Walton reported that she observed how GPS works in the trash and recycling trucks as a way to keep track of service issues. Accurate reporting of household issues will depend upon how well Willimantic Waste Paper maintains the ever-changing route list in the order that the truck collects households. Already the pictures that have been taken from the truck have helped with enforcement. The 35 gallon recycling containers are scheduled to arrive at the end of this month. Walton has a list of residents who have requested smaller containers. Since the Town is purchasing a finite number of containers (400), these smaller containers will be limited to residents with mobility issues. The committee advised waiving the \$10 delivery fee for containers purchased by the Town. Staff will discuss with Willimantic Waste Paper. Walton inspected the recycling of some of the households who need an extra 64 gallon recycling container. These households have a large volume of plastic containers and corrugated cardboard. It was decided to pass the Willimantic Waste Paper \$5.00 per month charge for an additional recycling container on to the household. This recommendation will be brought to the Town Council for their consideration. Walton will ask Willimantic Waste Paper if the \$10 delivery fee applies to additional recycling containers. The first cycle of service shut-offs recently occurred. Members agreed with the recommendation to retrieve containers from properties where service is shut-off after two weeks.

Hultgren reported that the multi-family contract will be extended another year under the same terms and conditions. With the transition to the new single-family trash provider, there would not be enough time to manage a new multi-family collection contract.

Members reviewed the estimates for a freestanding swap shop building of 30 feet by 24 feet and a sketch of the floor plan. This was one of the recommendations that came from last year's forensic transfer station audit. It was suggested to enlarge the enclosed "personnel area". On a motion by Ames/Roberts, the Committee approved staff's recommendation to move forward with building a separate swap shop. Staff will bring this recommendation to the Town Council for their consideration.

Walton circulated the websites on zero waste and asked the committee to review one or two prior to the next meeting. If the committee is interested in working on becoming a "zero waste" community, then the next meeting will establish where to begin focusing attention.

Walton gave an update on expanded textile recycling. Walton did not get a response from the letter she sent to Salvation Army asking if they would be in support of expanding the textile collection at the transfer station. A meeting with Goodwill Industries also met a dead end. Walton will pursue other organizations interested in collecting textiles of all kinds. Roberts offered to send along names of other organizations that may be interested.

Members agreed to meet every other month, on the second Thursday of the month for calendar year 2014. Walton

will send out the meeting calendar.

It was reported that since the paint recycling collection began in July 2013, 29 pallets of paint have been collected. Although it is labor intensive for transfer station staff, it has been a popular service.

Willimantic Waste Paper has gotten information on a split compactor that will fit in the space at 1 Royce Circle, the newest addition to multi-family service. Currently, the trash and recycling containers are “stacked” since the space is not adequate to serve their waste needs. As soon as Willimantic Waste Paper submits their costs, staff will bring a proposed rate for the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to evaluate.

The Town Council asked the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for guidance on whether to endorse an expansion of the Bottle Bill, which has been initiated by ConnPIRG. On a motion by Roberts/Ames, the committee approved the Town’s endorsement of an expanded bottle bill.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator